

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. An information access method comprising the steps of:

placing a first server within a network protected by a firewall;

connecting said first server with a second server located outside said network by a private line or a virtual private line;

taking at least some of files possessed by said first server and said second server as common files whose contents are maintained in common with each other; and

permitting information access to the common files in said first server, whereby an originator terminal that implements said access can gain information in the common files of said second server.

2. The information access method of claim 1, wherein said first server has a Web mail server function, and wherein information is exchanged between said first server and a wireless mobile terminal having a Web mailing function by Web mails while using said wireless mobile terminal as the originator terminal.

3. An information access method comprising the steps of:

placing a first server capable of responding to access from a wireless mobile terminal within a network protected

by a firewall;

connecting said first server with a second server located outside said network by a private line or a virtual private line;

loading a given application program into said second server;

causing said second server to activate and operate said application program according to commands which are generated by said wireless mobile terminal and which are included in access passed through said firewall; and

sending information about results of operation of said program to said wireless mobile terminal via said first server.

4. The information access method of claim 2 or 3, wherein said wireless mobile terminal is a cellular phone.

5. The information access method of claim 1 or 3, wherein if said network has plural segments independent of each other, said first server is placed in each of said segments, and wherein accesses passed through said firewall are assigned to the first servers specified by said accesses.

6. A network system having a network protected by a firewall, comprising:

segments forming said network and including a first segment;

a first server placed in said first segment and capable of responding to access passed through said firewall;

said first segment having a connection port for connecting said first server with a second server located outside said network by a private line or a virtual private line;

files held in said first and second servers, at least some of said files being common files whose contents are maintained in common with each other; and

said first server acting to search the common files held in this first server for corresponding information in response to said access and to send the fetched information to an originator terminal implemented said access.

7. A network system having a network protected by a firewall, comprising:

plural segments that are independent of each other within said network;

a communication control means mounted within said network to assign access passed through said firewall to any one of said segments;

a first server which is placed in each of said segments and is capable of responding to said access;

each of said segments having a connection port for connecting said first server with a second server located outside said network by a private line or a virtual private line;

files held in said first and second servers in each segment,

at least some of said files being common files whose contents are maintained in common with each other; and

one of said first servers receiving said access and acting to search the common files held in this first server for corresponding information and to send the fetched information to an originator terminal implemented said access.

8. The network system of claim 6 or 7, wherein each of said first and second servers is designed so that, if a change in the common files of its own occurs, differential data before and after the change is sent to other server and that, if said differential data is received from the other server, the differential data is automatically copied into the common files of its own.

9. A network system having a network protected by a firewall, comprising:

segments forming said network and including a first segment;

a first server placed in said first segment and capable of responding to access passed through said firewall;

said first segment having a connection port for connecting said first server with a second server located outside said network by a private line or a virtual private line;

said second server being loaded with a given application program;

said first server acting to cause said second server to activate and operate said application program according to commands included in said access, to gain information about results of operation of said program, and to send the gained information to an originator terminal implemented said access.

10. The network system of any one of claims 6-9, wherein said originator terminal is a wireless mobile terminal having a Web mailing function, and wherein said first server having a Web mail server function and responding to access implemented by said wireless mobile terminal by a Web mail.

11. A network system comprising:

a network protected by a firewall;

a first server of a user enterprise placed within said network;

a second server of said user enterprise placed outside said network, said first and second servers being interconnected by a private line or a virtual private line;

files held in said first and second servers, at least some of said files being in-house information files of said user enterprise whose contents are maintained in common with each other;

said network acting to authenticate access from a wireless mobile terminal controlled by an authenticated person;

said first server having a means for executing a copying task for maintaining said in-house information files of its

own in common with the contents of said second server; and

said first server further including means for executing at least one of reception processing for receiving information into said in-house information files of its own according to contents of said authenticated access, transmission processing for transmitting information contained in said in-house information files of its own, information search processing, and schedule processing for reading or entering an in-house schedule contained in said in-house information file of its own, whereby permitting communication with said wireless mobile terminal implementing said access.

12. The network system of claim 11, wherein said first server further includes a means for assisting transfer of information in the in-house information files among members of said user enterprise including said authenticated person.

13. The network system of claim 11, wherein said first server further includes a means for creating a mobile address book which consists of addresses of a given number of persons extracted from an employee address book of said user enterprise and which will be presented on said cell phone.

14. The network system of claim 11, wherein said first server has a time-measuring means, and wherein when said schedule processing is performed, only data about scheduled events later than the present date or present time are subjected to said schedule processing.

15. The network system of claim 11, wherein

(A) said wireless mobile terminal is a cellular phone having a Web mailing function,

(B) said first server has a Web mail server function and responds to access from said cellular phone by a Web mail, and

(C) information about a fee required for reception is displayed on said cellular phone for each different kind of information to be processed.

16. The network system of claim 15, wherein said first server is designed to limit displayed information about destinations included in a document displayed on said cellular phone.